only if that minimum quantity of work is done. If their work is less than the minimum, their pay will be reduced. That is just what happens always.

Mr. B. N. BORANNA GOWDA.—Are the Government aware that the work of those who got three or four promotions was found to be unsatisfactory, that it had therefore to be redone by another set of hands and that the former set of people were made to pay back a portion of the pay which they had already drawn?

Mr. G. B. HEBLIKAR.—This is not true. Nobody got three or four promotions.

Mr. K. MATTHAN.—If the work of the men promoted is not satisfactory, those who gave them promotion ought to take proper notice of it.

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA.—Why were promotions given to men whom the Head of the Department knew as being inefficient?

Mr. G. B. HEBLIKAR.—I gave promotions in order of seniority and for approved service only.

Mr. K. MATTHAN.—I shall enquire whether it was so.

Mr. H. B. GUNDAPPA.—In cases where the Supervising Officer recommended punishment on account of defective work, the Head of the Department gave them promotions and in cases where promotions were recommended, they were not given. Are Government aware of both these circumstances?

Mr. V. VENKATAPPA.—As between one and the same batch of persons whose work was the same in kind and quality, why were some given double promotions and some not?

Mr. G. B. HEBLIKAR.—Without going into details, I may say that all promotions have been given in the usual course by me in the order of seniority.

Particulars of Coffee and Other Crops raised in Dry Lands during the past 10 Years.

Q.—35. Messrs. Bagamane DEVA GOWDA and **SIDDALINGAPPA SETTY** (Chikmagalur Taluk); **K. MALLE GOWDA** and **HUTCHE GOWDA** (Mudgere Taluk); **N. M. SIVALINGAPPAIYA** and **K. THIMME GOWDA** (Kadur Taluk); **C. R. NIRVANAPPA SETTY** (Special Interest); **D. V. HALAPPA** (Birur Municipality); **HANJI BASAPPA** (Tarikere Taluk); **M. THIMMAIYA** (Tarikere Municipality) and **M. S. DYAVE GOWDA** (Koppa Taluk).—Will the Government be pleased to state (talukwar)

(*a*) (i) the circumstances under which coffee and other crops have been raised in dry lands during the past 10 years;

(ii) the particulars of crops so raised;

(*b*) the details of upset price, penalty, etc., if any, levied in such cases, with reasons therefor;

(*c*) (i) the number of instances in which plantain and other garden crops were raised in coffee lands, and (ii) the amount of additional levy, if any, on this account?

A.—The CHIEF SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman).—(*a*) It is reported that coffee and cardamom crops have been raised in a few cases where portions of dry lands have been found fit for raising such crops.

		Rs.	a.	p.
(*b*) Upset price	...	795	8	0
Penalty	...	102	0	0

(*c*) (i) 7 instances.
(ii) Rs. 156.

REPRESENTATIONS—(*concld.*)

No. 145.—Financial aid to coffee and areca planters.

MESSRS. MEER MAHOMED, Minorities, and M. THIMMIAH, Tarikere Municipality.

Mr. MEER MAHOMED represented that the price of coffee and areca which were the main commercial crops in the malnad was going down for the last two or three years and had reached the lowest level during the current year. The planters were carrying on their business with the help of borrowed funds as Government had not rendered them any help. If the present state of affairs continued for a few more years,

this industry would either die out or get into the hands of foreign capitalists. With a view to give relief to the planters, he prayed that banks be established in the area as was done in South America and other western countries and that the rate of penal interest, *viz.*, 9 per cent, charged on overdue instalments of cost of spraying materials purchased from the Agricultural Department be reduced to the level of rates charged on land improvement loans.

Mr. MORRIS supported the representation and said that all the planters enlisted themselves as members of the Coffee Growers' Association and joined in carrying on an intensive propaganda in Northern India, it might be possible to increase coffee consumption in India.

Dharmapravartha M. L. NAGAPPA SETTY said that the suggestion of Mr. Morris was worthy of consideration by the planters and added that Government should also extend their co-operation in the matter.

Mr. SIDDALINGAPPA SETTY said that commensurate with the very heavy assessment paid by the coffee and areca-growers, they were not getting facilities from the Government. If such a state of affairs continued for any longer period, the industry was sure to lapse into the hands of foreign capitalists. It was high time therefore that Government went to the rescue of the raiyats. Representations had been repeatedly made in the past for the opening of banks in the Hassan and the Kadur Districts, and in spite of the promises of Government to open a bank at Chikmagalur, nothing had been done so far. Now that the prices had reached the rock-bottom level, Government should establish banks with a view to give immediate relief to the planters. If necessary, the Government might appoint a committee to enquire into the actual situation so far as these two crops were concerned and take action on their report.

Mr. Hosakoppa KRISHNA RAO said that words could not adequately express the difficulties of the malnad agriculturists in general and of the areca-growers in particular. The prices of areca had fallen so low that the planters could not realise even their cost price by selling their produce. For this reason, large quantities of previous year's harvest were still lying unsold. Government had gone to the rescue of other agriculturists but not coffee and areca garden owners. Without Government aid at the present critical juncture, the industry was sure to suffer a very great set-back.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari) enquired whether banks were not giving any advances to the raiyats.

Mr. Hosakoppa KRISHNA RAO said that it was a very great handicap for growers of areca that near about the areca-growing centres, there were neither markets nor middlemen to purchase the commodity. It had to be sent to Birur and sold there. The planters were subject to great many hardships at the hands of the middlemen. This was the reason why some members had always represented that the Bank of Mysore was practically of no use to the malnad planters. The arecanut trade was mostly done on credit and middlemen could venture to do business locally only if financial aid was made available for them. The prices had fallen from Rs. 10—12 to Rs. 4—5, and there was absolutely no margin of profit left under the circumstances. As already stated, out of last year's harvest as much as one lakh of maunds of areca were lying unsold on account of the fall in prices. The situation was further aggravated by the fact that foreign arecanut, mostly that from Malay States was being dumped into the local markets in very large quantities. Owing to large scale production, they were able to sell the commodity in the said markets at a much cheaper rate than the local varieties. It was therefore very necessary that Government should make adequate financial support available to those engaged in coffee and areca trade. He also suggested that Government should impose some duty on all foreign areca coming into the State with a view to safeguard the local industry.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina Diwan Bahadur K. Matthan) said that Government were aware that coffee and areca were important industries in the State and that these stood in need of some financial aid from them. Government were also willing to extend financial aid, but before it was actually given, it was necessary that a certain amount of self-help should be shown by the coffee and areca-growers themselves. Unless they did that, he was afraid it would be futile to expect Government to do everything for them.

It had been represented that financial help to the industry through some bank was necessary. In this connection, it must be clearly understood that no bank, however willing it might be to help the industry, would make advances without sufficient security. With sufficient security, any bank would advance moneys almost as a matter of course. As a matter of fact, he was aware that the Mysore Bank was at one time prepared to extend its financial aid to the planters, but that it had to stay its hand for want of sufficient securities. If adequate security was not offered, it was certain that even Government would not be prepared to render any financial help. So, the best course under the circumstances would be to start a Coffee Bank and to induce the coffee planters to take shares therein and to invest monies. If this was attempted by the planters, Government might be prepared to give them any help that might be possible. As Mr. Morris said, with a large scale advertisement through the Coffee Growers' Association and the Planters' Associations and other means of propaganda, it was possible to create a fairly big market in India itself for all the coffee grown in the country. Any reasonable help in these directions, the Government would be willing to extend to the raiyats.

As regards low prices, he said that the local planters also should try, by improved methods of cultivation, to reduce the cost of production so that they might successfully compete with the foreign stuff that was being imported into the State. That, he said, would be better than requesting Government to impose a duty on foreign imports, which it was not possible for them to do.

Referring to the request about reducing the interest on the cost of spraying materials sold by the department on the instalment basis, the member said that certain proposals in that behalf were before the Government and they would consider them sympathetically.

Mr. Hosakoppa KRISHNA RAO, while agreeing with the observations of the previous speaker about the improvement of the market for coffee, said that the situation with regard to arecanut was altogether different. It could not be said that there was any very great demand for it. In the opinion of the present generation, chewing of betel leaves had become an old-time fashion and consequently arecanut had ceased to be an article of necessity. With some effort, it might be possible to improve the market for coffee, but not that for arecanut. For this reason, it was necessary to give some special protection for the areca trade.

Mr. K. MATTHAN enquired whether Government could in any way help to improve the demand for areca.

Mr. Hosakoppa KRISHNA RAO said that for the present, some financial aid to the industry was necessary. Arecanut was grown in some taluks of the Shimoga and Kadur Districts, but there was no market for it in those districts. Even for transporting it to the nearest market, the growers stood in need of some financial aid. No useful purpose would be served by having a bank at Chikmagalur. Banks were necessary at Tirthahalli and Koppa and areca-growing centres for giving the necessary aid to the growers.

Mr. K. MATTHAN said that if the Bank of Mysore had sure enough chances of successful working in those places, they would of their own accord open branches there as they had enough money to advance, provided sufficient securities were forthcoming.

Mr. Hosakoppa KRISHNA RAO said that the reason why the Mysore Bank

refused to open a branch in the malnad was, not that there were no chances of success, but that the parties to be helped lived in far off and undeveloped country. It was not his intention that any bank should advance moneys to planters without sufficient security. All that was wanted was that financial aid should be made available near at hand. It was also necessary to undertake propaganda to find fresh markets for the commodity in Northern India. Even for such a propaganda, financial aid was necessary.

Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI enquired whether the areca-growers would be willing, as coffee-growers were, to pay a cess for purposes of propaganda.

Mr. Hosakoppa KRISHNA RAO said that if it was found to be absolutely necessary, they would agree to pay it.

Mr. K. MATTHAN said that if the arecanut growers formed themselves into an association, decided among themselves about their wants, decided also what self-help they would themselves organise in the first instance and then approached Government with definite and reasonable proposals for help, Government would consider how best their needs could be met.

Mr. THIMMAIYA requested that a bank be opened at Tarikere and moneys advanced to the raiyats at a concessional rate of 6 per cent on the security of the available stocks of arecanut. At present, people were paying as much as 24 per cent or even more and the concessiou asked for would give very great relief to them. Otherwise, there would be no hope of the garden-owners getting out of the clutches of Marwaris and other money-lenders.

Mr. K. MATTHAN observed that the Government were aware that the coffee and arecanut growers were not in a position to pay more than 6 per cent interest. All the same, they could not ask the Bank of Mysore or any other bank for the matter of that, to charge only a particular rate and not more.

Mr. MEER MAHOMED said that the Manager of the Shimoga Branch of the Mysore Bank visited Tarikere and after studying the local conditions, recommended the opening of a branch there, but the Manager of the Bank was not in favour of it.

Dharmapravartha M. L. NAGAPPA SETTY, while sympathising with the request of the arecanut growers, said that the members asking for financial aid to the areca industry should also consider the banker's point of view. The price of arecanut had fallen considerably during recent years. He was aware that many private money-lenders had lent money to the garden-owners to the extent of nearly 4 lakhs of rupees at very much lower rates of interest than the bank rate. Now they were finding that there was not sufficient security for their moneys and were at a loss to know how to recover the loans. Such being the case, how could either any joint stock companies or the Government finance these people? No one would be willing to advance money without sufficient security. The Malay States were producing at very low cost as much as 12 times the crop in the State; their areca was really good in quality and agreeable to all consumers; and so it was possible for them to sell their article at much cheaper rates than local produce commanded. So, unless a very heavy duty was imposed on imports, it would not help local garden-owners. He added that, if at all, the Reserve Bank of India might be moved to give long-term loans to these people.

Mr. K. MATTHAN expected that the Reserve Bank might, if at all, give loans to State-aided banks; he did not believe that they would give any assistance to private areca-growers or traders.

Mr. M. L. NAGAPPA SETTY represented that the Government might, however, take up the matter with the Bank.

Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI observed that Mr. Hosakoppa Krishna Rao's request was mainly in respect of banking facilities to arecanut growers. Mr. Krishna Rao, he said, was aware that the Government had appointed in 1931 the Malnad Economic Depression Enquiry Committee, to enquire into the various causes of depression, and had submitted detailed recommendations in

respect of all relevant matters. They had recommended, among other things, the starting of co-operative societies—both credit and sale; that the Apex Bank should, if it could, advance the necessary funds for the purpose, and if that Bank could not do so, that the Government should advance loans on cheap rates of interest; that such co-operative societies should be started at Tirthahalli, Koppa and Sagar, each with a capital of Rs. 50,000 and so on. Government had also issued orders that action might be taken by the departments concerned on the lines of the recommendations of the committee and, for the present, it was proposed to start a bank at Koppa. But as the First Member of Council had just remarked, unless self-help on the part of the people was forthcoming in the initial stages and a sufficient number of members and workers were also available, much could not be accomplished.

Mr. Hosakoppa KRISHNA RAO said that if the Government took the initiative, all the people concerned would heartily co-operate with them.

No. 56.—Empowering Sub-Registrars to recover deficient stamp duty in respect of documents presented in their offices for registration.

MESSRS. VEERE GOWDA, Dodballapur Taluk; B. L. BYANNA, Bangalore City Municipality; S. MUNIVENKATAPPA, Minorities; B. M. MUNISAMAPPA and H. R. GURUVA REDDY, Bangalore Taluk.

Mr. VEERE GOWDA represented that insufficiently stamped documents presented to Sub-Registrars' offices were often rejected or impounded, and that consequently parties were being subjected to great hardship and loss. He therefore prayed that Sub-Registrars be empowered to recover the deficient stamp duty in such cases and register the documents. He added that Government would not be put to any inconvenience or loss by accepting the request.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari) while admitting the inconvenience felt by the people, explained that the Sub-Registrars were not competent to recover the deficiency of stamp duty, as they would not be familiar with the legal aspect of the various documents coming up for registration and were not generally posted up with the latest orders on the subject. That duty could better be discharged by the Deputy Commissioner who was the highest revenue authority in the district under the Regulation. The Sub-Registrar was concerned only with technical details purely from the point of view of registration. He added that Government had examined the question many times in the past and had come to the conclusion that it would not be advisable to empower Sub-Registrars to recover deficient stamp duty and proceed to register documents straightaway.

No. 57.—Reduction of search fees in Registration Offices.

MESSRS. A. V. NANJUNDA SETTY, Arkalgud Taluk; P. BASAVE GOWDA and A. KENCHAPPA, Arsikere Taluk; H. B. GUNDAPPA and B. DONDE GOWDA, Hassan Taluk; S. P. BRAHMAPPA, Hassan Municipality; MAHOMED AKBAR SHERIFF, S. C. BELURIAH and K. A. RAHIM, Minorities; B. N. CHELUVE GOWDA, M. NANJAPPA and B. L. HUTCHAPPA, Channarayapatna Taluk; B. N. BORANNA GOWDA, Belur Taluk; KARIAPPA GOWDA and K. RAMANNA, Hole-Narsipur Taluk; NARASIMHIAH, Hole-Narsipur Municipality; B. K. SOME GOWDA and B. DEVAPPA GOWDA, Manjarabad Taluk; and A. S. NANJUNDAPPA, Alur Sub-Taluk.

Mr. A. V. NANJUNDA SETTY represented that the present rates of search fees levied in Registration Offices at Re. 1 for a single search for the first year and 4 annas for every other year and Rs. 2 for a general search for the first year and 8 annas for every other year with a maximum of Rs. 10, in place of the former uniform rate of Re. 1, were too high and worked as a great hardship to the public. He therefore prayed that the rates be reduced to the old level, especially as in small money transactions it would be hard to pay very heavy search fees.

Mr. M. SUBBAIAH thought that if existing rates were reduced, Government would stand to gain by it. Because of the high rates prevailing, most people were not paying the full rates and obtaining the references but were resorting to other ways of gathering the required information. Secondly,

the cost incurred on this item would usually fall on the borrower and that was also a cogent reason, he said, for reducing the rates.

The INSPECTOR-GENERAL of REGISTRATION (Mr. D. Srinivasa Iyengar) explained that even as matters stood, several Sub-Registry Offices were working at a deficit and if the rates were to be further reduced, he was afraid that many of the offices would have to be closed down. He pointed out that the entire question of search fees, etc., was examined two years back by the present Second Member of Council when he was at the head of the Registration Department and they were kept at a level with those prevailing in the neighbouring provinces of British India. Considering the services rendered to the general public by a large establishment maintained by the department and all the trouble involved in searching out references, he said that Government did not consider it expedient to introduce a uniform rate as requested by the Assembly. Since a maximum limit of Rs. 5 and Rs. 10 respectively had been imposed in the two classes of cases, he was of opinion that no case had been made out for a further reduction.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari) pointed out that Madras, Bombay and other Presidencies had also the same rates and as such further concessions were not called for.

No. 58.—Making available the Index Registers, etc., in all the Sub-Registry Offices in the taluk instead of only at headquarters as at present.

MR. PATEL SIDDE GOWDA, T.-Narsipur Taluk.

Mr. Patel SIDDE GOWDA represented that in certain taluks of the State, there were two Sub-Registry Offices. For references and enquiries pertaining to encumbrances of immovable properties, with reference to Index Registers, etc., one had to go to the taluk headquarter Sub-Registry Office as the same were not available in any bifurcated offices. As this entailed lot of hardship and delay, he prayed that copies of such Index Reference Registers, etc., pertaining to the properties in the bifurcated area be arranged to be supplied to these offices also so that all the references relating to the properties in the Sub-Registry area might be available.

The INSPECTOR-GENERAL of REGISTRATION (Mr. D. Srinivasa Iyengar) explained that there were only two sub-offices in the State, one at Bannur, T.-Narsipur Taluk, and the other at Kuderu, Chamarajanagar Taluk, which had been separated from their main taluk offices. The cost involved in duplicating all the Index Registers would be very heavy and quite disproportionate to any advantage that might be secured. Besides, it was not at all difficult in these days for people to travel to taluk headquarters, so that it was really not necessary to maintain the register in duplicate. Even if a duplicate copy was prepared, it could never be up-to-date. For these reasons, he said that it would not be possible to grant the request.

No. 59.—Permission to use one or more stamp papers when one of the required denomination be not available.

MR. PATEL SIDDE GOWDA, T.-Narsipur Taluk.

Mr. Patel SIDDE GOWDA represented that adherence to the rule of using only one stamp paper of the requisite value was causing great hardship and delay in monetary transactions and registration when the vendor did not keep single papers of the required value in stock. He therefore prayed that whenever the stamp paper of required value was not available, the old rule of using stamp papers of smaller denomination to make up the one of the required value be kindly revived.

The INSPECTOR-GENERAL of REGISTRATION (Mr. D. Srinivasa Iyengar) explained that the object of the department was only to prevent the indiscriminate use of a large number of stamp papers, in any given case, such as, for example, for a 50-rupee paper using 50 sheets of Re. 1 each, etc. If it was merely a question of adding one or two sheets to make up a document of the required value, it could be done

even now under the existing rule. And he promised to issue circular instructions to all the officers concerned, to the effect that such a procedure should not be ordinarily objected to by them.

No. 60.—Appointment of a Committee to enquire into the conditions of raiyats in Sringeri Jahagir.

MR. K. SUBBA RAO, Sringeri Jahagir.

As the rates of land revenue and other taxes in the Sringeri Jahagir do not tend to the prosperity of the raiyats there, it is prayed that a mixed committee of officials and non-officials, having no manner of connection with the jahagir, be appointed to investigate into and report on the conditions and state of affairs there.

Not taken up as the mover was absent.

No. 61.—Grant of land for the maintenance of the Durgah in Channapatna.

MR. S. I. MUMTAZ, Minorities.

Mr. S. I. MUMTAZ prayed that the Government be pleased to grant sufficient and suitable lands for the maintenance of the Durgah of Hazarath Malik Burhanuddin in the Channapatna Taluk, and to lay out a road up to the Durgah from the district board road as thousands of pilgrims annually visit the Durgah from various parts of India.

The MUZRAI COMMISSIONER (Mr. N. Madhava Rao) explained that the Durgah in question was a non-Muzrai institution and that the question of grant of lands would be considered if an application specifying the lands required was made by the Manager. With regard to the formation of a road, he added, that it was a matter to be taken up with the District Board.

No. 62.—Establishment of Unani Vaidyasalas at each taluk and district headquarters.

NAWAB SHER KHAN, Minorities.

NAWAB SHER KHAN prayed that Government might establish Unani Vaidyasalas at all taluk and district headquarters to be in charge of only those that have passed out of the Government Unani College.

In doing so, he represented that no adequate provision existed in rural parts for medical relief. Even in taluk headquarters, where there was only one dispensary in each, a single Sub-Assistant Surgeon could not attend to all the patients and so several people were not getting the necessary medical aid. The indigenous systems of Ayurvedic and Unani medicines, being ancient systems, had a great following in the country, especially as the people in the rural parts had greater faith in them. The medicines could also be had very cheap since the required herbs were available locally. If Government gave special encouragement to these indigenous systems, the expenditure incurred on foreign drugs could be considerably reduced. In this connection, the speaker invited attention to the recent Convocation Address of Mr. C. Y. Chintamani urging the claims of the Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine for State patronage and for recognition by the University also. He mentioned that there were several qualified candidates for being employed in those institutions to be established in all parts of the State, and encouragement could be given for carrying on research work in the two systems on the lines of Hakim Ajmal Khan's Pharmacy at Delhi. If his representation was accepted, he had no doubt that it would result in greater benefits to the general public.

In supporting the representation made by the previous speaker, **Mr. B. L. BYANNA** said that the rural parts were not deriving full benefit from foreign medicines as funds at the disposal of local bodies were very limited. Government also were pleading want of fund to open new dispensaries and equip them with the necessary medicines. The general impression on the part of the people was that English medicines were not so efficacious as the indigenous ones and that the latter alone were capable of rooting out the disease. He therefore urged that special encouragement be given for Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicines.

The MUZRAI COMMISSIONER (Mr. N. Madhava Rao) pointed out that the Government of Mysore had all along been encouraging both Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine. They had opened a college in Mysore and had also attached two dispensaries to it. Recently, the scholarships given to students under training had been enhanced. On the whole, they were spending something like Rs. 30,000 or Rs. 40,000 on the college. This was enough to show, he said, that adequate arrangements had already been made for turning out Hakims and Pandits from the college.

As regards the question of opening Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries in villages, the Muzrai Commissioner said that it was mainly a matter for the local bodies to take up. In some cases, passed students had opened dispensaries in villages and got grants from village panchayats. He mentioned that they were all doing good work and would advise other people similarly qualified to follow the same example. He added that District Boards had been informed that only passed students and not quacks should be employed in such dispensaries. That was enough, he said, to provide adequate encouragement to Hakims and Pandits.

NAWAB SHER KHAN said that he had noticed a decrease in the number of Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries, and requested that Government might circularise all local bodies to open more dispensaries of the indigenous type.

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAO observed that when funds became available, the local bodies might be expected to increase the number of such dispensaries.

No. 63.—Application of the provisions of the Agriculturists' Relief Regulation to persons having income of over Rs. 1,000.

Messrs. Meer Mohamed, Minorities and M. Thimmiah, Tarikere Municipality.

Mr. MEER MOHAMED prayed that as the Agriculturists' Relief Regulation did not at present apply to raiyats with income exceeding Rs. 1,000 the Regulation be so amended as to apply to such raiyats as well.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina Diwan Bahadur K. Matthan) explained that the Agriculturists' Relief Regulation would be amended in certain respects in the near future but that the question of making it applicable to the wealthier raiyats as proposed would not come under that, as Government felt that it was not a desirable amendment.

No. 71.—Fixing the rate of interest at 8 annas per Rs. 100 per month from the date of the execution of the document.

Mr. Syed Mohiyuddin Hussein, Chitaldrug Municipality, and Other Members of the District.

Mr. Syed MOHIYUDDIN HUSSEIN represented that the raiyats were very much hard-hit by the present depression in trade and unfavourable seasonal conditions. They had often to raise loans for agricultural purposes at exhorbitant and ruinous rates of interest and in the long run, lose their lands and property, being unable to pay off their dues. He therefore prayed that the Civil Courts might order recovery of interest at 6 per cent per annum from the date of execution of the document to the date of recovery.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari) explained that the matter was engaging the attention of Government, that they were aware of the difficulties which the raiyats were undergoing and that necessary legislation in the matter would be passed as soon as possible, though Government were not quite prepared to say at the moment that 6 per cent alone would be the proper rate of interest leviable in such cases.

No. 72.—Empowering Munsiffs to pass decrees with suitable interest cancelling the heavy rates.

Mr. A. G. Muddurachappa, Bowringpet Municipality.

Mr. A. G. MUDDURACHAPPA represented that in Kolar Gold Fields, the Marwaris and the Punjabis were collecting from coolies interest at the

rate of 2 to 4 annas per rupee per month, thereby causing trouble to them. He prayed that an order be passed that Munsiffs might pass decrees with suitable interest cancelling the above heavy rate of interest, when suits were filed in the courts.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina Diwan Bahadur K. Matthan) explained that under the Usurious Loans Regulation, there was provision for the courts to grant relief where the interest was excessive, taking into consideration the relationship between the debtor and the creditor.

Mr. MUDDURACHAPPA pointed out that the same reply had been given by the Government at the last session also but that the courts in the K.G.F. were not giving effect to it.

Mr. K. MATTHAN replied that Government understood that effect was being given to the Regulation in all parts of the State.

Mr. B. SRINIVASA RAO mentioned that in the K.G.F. the courts were showing the concession only to raiyats but that workers in the mines were continuing to pay usurious rates of interest.

Mr. K. MATTHAN observed that formerly the rate of interest paid by them was from 1 anna to 2 annas per rupee per month, which worked out to 75 to 150 per cent. But recently the maximum limit had been reduced to 24 per cent.

Mr. B. SRINIVASA RAO, continuing, represented that the Punjabi moneylenders were giving considerable trouble to borrowers and that some drastic action was called for by way of giving them relief.

Mr. K. MATTHAN replied that legislation to regulate and control the business of money-lenders was under the contemplation of Government.

Mr. MUDDURACHAPPA brought to notice that even now the Munsiff's Court at Bowringpet was allowing 6 per cent per month on decretal amounts.

Mr. K. MATTHAN expressed surprise at the information and promised that a copy of the discussion on this subject would be sent to the High Court for consideration.

No. 73.—Disallowance of pies, compound and penal interest included in plaints while awarding decrees.

Messrs. Meer Mohamed, Minorities, and M. Thimmiah, Tarikere Municipality.

Mr. MEER MOHAMED prayed that while awarding decrees in civil suits, courts be empowered to disallow pies (towards interest), compound and penal interest included in plaints, having regard to the present economic condition of the people.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina Diwan Bahadur K. Matthan) said that as already explained, the Civil Courts had power to grant relief where the interest was excessive. He however promised to send this representation also to the High Court for consideration.

No. 74.—Establishment of a Munsiff-Magistrate's Court at all taluk headquarters.

Messrs. S. I. Mumtaz, Minorities, and H. Gangappa, Magadi Taluk.

Mr. H. GANGAPPA represented that on account of the present economic depression, people found it difficult to go to Civil and Criminal Courts located at long distances. He therefore prayed that facilities be afforded to the people by establishing Munsiff-Magistrates' Courts at all taluk headquarters in the State.

Mr. PUTTARAMA SETTY explained that the very fact that this subject was coming up for discussion in the Assembly year after year showed that people had a real grievance in the matter. He knew of certain cases, he said, where people had to cover a distance of 60 to 70 miles to reach a Civil Court for the sake of recovering Rs. 100.

Mr. B. SIDDALINGA SETTY represented that after the abolition of the Panchayat Courts, people were put to lot of hardships even in paltry cases. People in the Yedatore Taluk had to go to one taluk headquarter for civil cases and a different one for criminal cases. He therefore prayed for the establishment of a Munsiff-Magistrate's Court in Krishnarajanagar.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina Diwan Bahadur K. Matthan)

explained that the difficulty could be obviated by slight alterations in the location and jurisdiction of the existing courts.

As regards the request for establishing Munsiff-Magistrates' Courts in all taluk headquarters, the Member pointed out that the question of adopting the scheme generally in all places was gone into by the High Court as well as by the Laws Delays Committee some time ago but was finally dropped as not feasible and as likely to impede civil work. He added that Government would however deal with the matter in consultation with the High Court.

RESOLUTIONS—(*concld.*)

No. 26.—Srimathi D. SAKAMMA moved the following resolution :—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja the desirability of introducing a measure for the removal of the disabilities of Hindu widows in the matter of re-marriage on the model of the one in force in British India."

In doing so, she regretted that though re-marriage of Hindu widows had been legalised in British India several decades ago, no such legislation was in force in the Model State of Mysore. The need for it would be easily recognised by all those who had any human sympathy. She added pathetically that if the hardship and privations to which a young Hindu widow was being subjected were described in detail, even stones would be moved. She described the lot of the widow who, as married woman during the life-time of the husband, was enjoying all happiness but who on the husband's death, had to face various hardships all at once, and regretted that such a state of affairs had not drawn the attention of the Mysore legislators. Immediately after the husband's death, the young widow would be allowed the privilege of staying in her parent's house for some time without much trouble. But after a time, she had to go and live in the deceased husband's house. More often than not, the mother-in-law ill-treated her, overworked her and even resorted to beating her. There were several cases of girl-widows going astray, and in order to shield the consequential developments, they had to undergo medical treatment or resort to Mission hospitals at the time of confinement. Very often, in order to avoid indignities the woman got herself converted to Christianity with the new-born babe. The remedy for all these ills, in her opinion, lay in providing, by means of legislation, for the re-marriage of such of the widows as desired to avail themselves of it. She impressed on the House that her proposal did not aim at compelling every widow to re-marry and hoped that Government would take necessary action to enact the law in Mysore.

Mr. B. S. PUTTASWAMY, in seconding the resolution, laid stress on the fact that what was proposed in the resolution was only a permissible legislation and that no widow would be compelled to re-marry. In the absence of the proposed legislation, the widows who wanted to re-marry were confronted with the difficulty of the future lot of their issues, as they could not inherit ancestral property and other civil rights. If this disability was removed, he had no doubt that more and more of girl-widows would come forward to re-marry and end their miseries.

In order to meet the likely opposition from the orthodox school of thought, he cited authorities from ancient Hindu scriptures such as Parasara Smruti, Narada Smruti and Manu Smruti.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari), interrupting the speaker, enquired whether it was necessary for him to go so far back as all that for supporting the proposal, since the interpretation of scriptures might lead to endless controversies.

Mr. PUTTASWAMY replied that his object was merely to show that the Shastras themselves had made provision for re-marriage of women in exceptional cases. He thought it necessary to reform the customs and manners of the people according to the spirit of the times as otherwise there could be no progress. As what was advocated was only a permissive measure, he